

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 18 and 20 as follows.

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting the formation, maintenance or repair of tissue, ~~which comprises the step of comprising:~~
~~providing an agent capable of inducing a leptin or leptin receptor-mediated angiogenic response; and~~
~~administering, to a subject in need thereof, an effective amount of ~~an~~ the agent to promote the formation, maintenance or repair of the tissue.~~
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the angiogenic response affects vascular cells in the subject.
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein administering ~~comprises administering~~ the agent is administered locally and the vascular cell response occurs locally.

Claims 21-28 (Canceled).